

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 APR 2005

International Application No

PCT/EP/03/04541

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B5/0472 G01N33/68

10/532359

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 682 901 A (KAMEN PETER WALTER) 4 November 1997 (1997-11-04) column 3, line 11-21 column 4, line 34-37 figure 2 ---	18
X	NIELSEN O W ET AL: "Risk assessment of left ventricular systolic dysfunction in primary care: cross sectional study evaluating a range of diagnostic tests." BMJ (CLINICAL RESEARCH ED.), vol. 320, no. 7229, 22 January 2000 (2000-01-22), pages 220-224, XP002266958 abstract page 221, left-hand column, paragraphs 2-5 page 222, right-hand column, paragraph 2 -page 223, left-hand column, paragraph 1 --- -/-	19,20

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

15 January 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

29/01/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	HOUGHTON A R ET AL: "Should general practitioners use the electrocardiogram to select patients with suspected heart failure for echocardiography?" INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CARDIOLOGY, vol. 62, no. 1, 31 October 1997 (1997-10-31), pages 31-36, XP002266959 cited in the application page 35, right-hand column, paragraph 2 ---	19,20
A	RIBEIRO A L P ET AL: "Brain natriuretic peptide and left ventricular dysfunction in Chagas' disease" LANCET, XX, XX, vol. 360, no. 9331, 10 August 2002 (2002-08-10), pages 461-462, XP004374578 ISSN: 0140-6736 abstract page 462, left-hand column, paragraph 2 ---	19,20
A	WO 00 35951 A (NG LEONG LOKE ;UNIV LEICESTER (GB)) 22 June 2000 (2000-06-22) page 20, paragraph 1 page 22, paragraph 2 page 23, last paragraph -page 25, paragraph 3 ---	19,20
A	US 5 560 368 A (BERGER RONALD D) 1 October 1996 (1996-10-01) column 5, line 41 -column 6, line 2 ---	18
A	EP 1 102 196 A (CARDIAC INTELLIGENCE CORP) 23 May 2001 (2001-05-23) page 5, line 55 -page 6, line 17 -----	18

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International application No.
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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: 1-17, 21-23
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims 1-5, 8-17: Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Diagnostic method practised on the human or animal body. Claims 6,7: Rule 39.1(i) PCT - Mathematical method. Claims 21-23: Rule 39.1(vi) PCT - Program for computers
2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple Inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

GB 03/04541

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5682901	A 04-11-1997	AU	674775 B2	09-01-1997
		AU	7342294 A	28-02-1995
		WO	9503739 A1	09-02-1995
WO 0035951	A 22-06-2000	AU	1670300 A	03-07-2000
		WO	0035951 A1	22-06-2000
US 5560368	A 01-10-1996	NONE		
EP 1102196	A 23-05-2001	US	6336903 B1	08-01-2002
		AU	751467 B2	15-08-2002
		AU	7157600 A	24-05-2001
		CA	2325660 A1	16-05-2001
		EP	1102196 A2	23-05-2001
		EP	1102199 A2	23-05-2001
		US	2002099302 A1	25-07-2002